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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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For Immediate Release

PIGGYBACK TRAFFIC SETS RECORD

WASHINGTON, January 15, 1987 -- The number of trailers and containers loaded in piggyback service on major U.S. railroads in 1986 exceeded 5.0 million, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The 1986 total of 5,011,037, the highest total on record, was 9.2 percent higher than 1985, and 9.8 percent higher than 1984.

TOFC/COFC loadings accounted for 16.9 percent of total rail carloadings in 1986 and remained second only to coal -- the traditional leader -- as a source of railroad traffic.

Trailers and containers loaded during the holiday week ended December 27 totaled 72,368, 15.2 percent higher than the corresponding week of 1985.

The AAR also reported that total freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the New Year's holiday week ended January 3 totaled 12.0 billion ton-miles, 5.9 percent below the corresponding holiday week of 1986.

Total carloadings on major railroads for the January 3 week were 261,820, down 7.4 percent from the comparable week of 1986, and 9.4 percent higher than the preceding Christmas week. Compared with last year, loadings were down 11.4 percent in the East, and down 3.0 percent in the West.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 1/03/87:

	Loadings in Week ended January 3, 1987		Change from Corresponding Week 1986			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	14,978	I	6,065	28.8	D	1,411	8.6
Other farm products	3,595	I	219	6.5	I	480	15.4
Metallic ores	4,402	D	4,135	48.4	D	929	17.4
Coal	76,803	D	9,549	11.1	I	11,492	17.6
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	6,803	D	977	12.6	I	2,221	48.5
Nonmetallic minerals	7,691	I	391	5.4	D	209	2.6
Grain mill products	9,486	I	814	9.4	I	1,279	15.6
Food and kindred products	7,560	I	40	0.5	I	429	6.0
Primary forest products	8,602	D	367	4.3	I	2,826	48.9
Lumber and wood products except furniture	5,267	I	654	14.2	I	315	6.4
Pulp, paper and allied products	13,165	I	767	6.2	I	1,703	14.9
Chemicals and allied products	22,760	I	1,660	7.9	I	4,701	26.0
Petroleum products	3,924	D	342	8.0	I	717	22.4
Stone, clay and glass products	7,078	D	289	3.9	I	1,614	29.5
Coke	4,128	D	251	5.7	I	353	9.4
Metals and products	7,108	D	176	2.4	I	1,740	32.4
Motor vehicles and equipment	4,644	D	3,056	39.7	D	5,926	56.1
Waste and scrap materials	4,888	D	509	9.4	I	280	6.1
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	1,515	D	2,479	62.1	D	465	23.5
All other carloads	47,383	I	2,877	6.5	I	1,308	2.8
LCL traffic	40	D	27	40.3	D	6	13.0
Total Cars Loaded	261,820	D	20,820	7.4	I	22,512	9.4
Corresponding week of 1986	282,640						

	1987	1986	% Change
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
Week ended January 3	12.0	12.8	D 5.9

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